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O B S E Q U I E S .

JOHN S. BARBOUR,

Late a Senator from the State of Virginia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Monday, May 16, 1892.

W A S H I N G T O N .

1892.

31

Obsequies.

JOHN S. BARBOUR,

LATE A SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.

SENATE.

MONDAY, May 16, 1892.

THE VICE PRESIDENT resumed the chair.

DEATH OF SENATOR BARBOUR.

THE CHAPLAIN, REV. J. G. H. LEE, D. D., offered the following prayer:

O God, beloved, we reverently draw nigh to Thee, worshiping Thee, the living, everlasting God. Amid the mysteries of life and of death, the generations coming and going, we rejoice that Thy throne abideth. We bless Thee for the life and immortality brought to us in the Gospel. We thank Thee for Him who is the way, and the truth, and the life.

As we stand among the living and the dead, give us grace to walk in Christ, ever accepting His truth and imitating His life, having begotten in us, by Thy divine Spirit, that life which shall never end.

Sanctify to us, we pray Thee, this bereavement. Remember very tenderly, their God of all comfort, those who stand most nearly related to Thy departed servant. We thank Thee for every true and faithful life and for this life spared so long.

We pray Thee, teach us to live wisely and well, serving God and our own generation, keeping our consciences right before Thee and toward each other, doing whatsoever our hands find

to do with all our might faithfully and well, not knowing the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh, so that whenever Thou shalt come we may be prepared to give account to Thee, the judge of quick and dead.

Hallow to us the day of God with all the blessed privileges that center in the holy Sabbath. Sanctify all the orderings of Thy providence unto us Thy servants this day. Have us in Thy holy keeping, O Thou, in whom we live and move and have our being. If it please Thee, spare and prolong life, and teach us so to use life's blessed opportunity that when we shall come to the end we may enter into rest. Blot out our transgressions, and grant us grace and peace, in the name of Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Journal of the proceedings of Friday last was read and approved.

MR. KENNA. Mr. President, in the absence, on account of sickness, of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. DANIEL], it becomes my painful duty to announce to the Senate the death of Hon. John S. Barbour, late a member of this body from that State.

Apparently in the full and healthful possession of every normal faculty, Mr. Barbour was among us on Friday in the active and zealous discharge of public duty. Even beyond the allotted time of threescore years and ten he crossed this threshold on Friday afternoon, seemingly in vigorous health, his last day's labor unconsciously performed. At 10 o'clock in the closing hours of that day he retired to his bedroom the embodiment and type and perfection, as far as human eye could see, of physical manhood. On Saturday morning, at the age of seventy-one years and five months, at the hour of five and a half o'clock, with only a word of admonition to those who affectionately surrounded him at his house in this city, John S. Barbour passed away.

Mr. President, in this second sudden visitation of Providence in the present session of the Senate we recognize a power in whose inscrutable wisdom we were born to live, and in the presence of whose unchallengeable majesty we are born to die. The death of Mr. Barbour is a great grief to his household, a calam-

ity to his friends. It has come as a personal affliction to his late associates in the public service here. His State will exhibit in the bereavement of her people a realization of the full measure of her loss, and his country, by the observances in which the nations, by their accredited representatives, are soon, by your invitation, to take part, will acknowledge her sense and appreciation of this melancholy event.

And yet, Mr. President, speaking for myself and making frank expression of the inspiration of which this solemn occasion possesses me, I have felt, as the associate and neighbor and friend of Mr. Barbour, that memories of his private virtues and public career, elevated and clean and noble as they were, give back, at least in some degree, a compensation from the grave. They soften by the sweet influences which radiate from the consciousness of a life well spent the asperities of grief which nature is prone to indulge on occasions like this. This death is to my mind the gathering of ripened fruit, the garnering of the sheaf in the well rounded fullness of its golden maturity.

John S. Barbour was in all the relations of this world an elevated character and an upright man. His sterling qualities of mind and heart bore practical fruit. His genius for affairs made monuments in the business and public walks of men, as, in a narrower sphere, his humanity made gratitudes which will follow like angels, guarding him to the tomb.

When the Senate, as is its custom, shall have set apart a day to be devoted to the recounting of his manly virtues and the exhibition of the elements of his lofty character, it will be seen of all that his traits were above those of most of his fellow-men; that he was useful and valuable to his country and his countrymen; that he practiced justice and fair dealing; that he was imbued with a love of right; that he gave example worthy of emulation by youth as well as by age, and that he moved and had his being, without ostentation or form, in the reverence and veneration of his God.

Mr. President, I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The resolutions will be read.

The Chief Clerk read the resolutions, as follows:

Resolved. That the announcement of the sudden death of Hon. John S. Barbour is received with profound sorrow by his associates in the Senate.

Resolved. That a committee of nine Senators be appointed by the Vice-President to take order, with a committee of the House of Representatives, for the funeral of the late Senator Barbour; and as a mark of respect for his memory that his remains be removed from the Capitol to his late residence in Washington, and thence to Poplar Hill, Md., for interment in charge of the Sergeant-at-Arms, and attended by said committee, who shall have power to carry this resolution into effect.

Resolved. That the Senate will at 1 o'clock to-day attend in its Chamber the exercises incident to his funeral.

Resolved. That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these proceedings to the House of Representatives and invite the House of Representatives to attend the funeral in the Senate Chamber at the hour named.

The resolutions were agreed to unanimously.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Under the second resolution, as the committee on the part of the Senate to take order with the committee from the House of Representatives to accompany the remains of their late colleague to his final resting place, the Chair appoints the Senator from Virginia [Mr. DANIEL], the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. KENNA], the Senator from Maryland [Mr. GORMAN], the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. WALTHALL], the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. CARLISLE], the Senator from Nevada [Mr. STEWART], the Senator from Michigan [Mr. McMILLAN], the Senator from Illinois [Mr. CULLOM], and the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WASHBURN].

RECESS.

Mr. KENNA. Mr. President, I ask the adoption of the resolution which I send to the desk.

The resolution was read, as follows:

Resolved. That the Senate do now take a recess until 12:50 o'clock.

The resolution was agreed to; and (at 12 o'clock and 15 minutes p. m.) the Senate took a recess until 12 o'clock and 50 minutes p. m., at which hour it reassembled.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

A message from the House of Representatives by Mr. T. O. TOWLES, its Chief Clerk, announced that the House had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved. That the House of Representatives accept the invitation of the

Senate to attend the funeral services of the late Hon. John S. Barbour, a Senator of the United States from the State of Virginia, to be held in the Senate Chamber this day at 1 o'clock p. m.

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House be directed to inform the Senate that the Speaker of the House has appointed the following committee, to act in conjunction with the committee of the Senate, to make necessary arrangements and accompany the remains to the place of burial, viz: Mr. MEREDITH, Mr. HOLMAN, Mr. WILSON of West Virginia, Mr. HENDERSON of North Carolina, Mr. HEMPHILL, Mr. MUTHLER, Mr. BLOUNT, Mr. COMPTON, Mr. O'FERRALL, Mr. HARMER, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. GROUT.

FUNERAL OF SENATOR BARBOUR.

At five minutes before 1 o'clock the members of the House of Representatives, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms and Clerk, and headed by the Speaker, entered the Senate Chamber. The Speaker was escorted to a seat at the right of the Vice-President, the Clerk at the Secretary's desk, and the Sergeant-at-Arms on the right of the Vice-President's desk, and the members of the House were escorted to the seats on the floor provided for them.

They were soon followed by the Major-General Commanding the Army, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, the Chief Justice and associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, the members of the Cabinet, and the Diplomatic Corps, who were respectively escorted to the seats assigned them on the floor of the Senate Chamber.

At 1 o'clock and 10 minutes p. m. the casket containing the remains of the deceased Senator was brought into the Senate Chamber, having been preceded by the family and friends of the deceased, and escorted by the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate and the committee of arrangements of the two Houses and pall-bearers selected from the Capitol police, and followed by acolytes and R. Rev. John J. Keane, rector of the Catholic University of America, Rev. C. Gillespie, S. J., Rev. M. C. Dolan, S. J., Rev. A. M. Mandalari, S. J., Rev. James Smith, S. J., Rev. Jacob Walter, Rev. James F. Mackin, Rev. John T. Delaney, Monsignor I. Schroeder and Prof. Joseph Pohle, of the Catholic University, and Rev. Aloysius Brosnan, S. J., master of ceremonies.

The prayers for the burial of the dead, prescribed in the ritual of the Catholic Church, were read by Rev. C. Gillespie, S. J.,

rector of St. Aloysius Church, first in Latin and then in English, the responses being made by the attending clergymen. After the incensing and blessing of the body, R Rev. JOHN J. KEANE delivered the following sermon:

Judge not before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts, and then shall every man have his praise from God.—1 Cor., iv, 5.

In the presence of the judgment of God, how must all human judgment bow in adoring silence! It is the lesson which the apostle of the Gentiles thus solemnly impressed on the Corinthians. It is the lesson which in this hour of mourning and of wistful gazing beyond the tomb he lovingly whispers to us. It is the lesson by which he ever shaped his own life. In no spirit of contempt for his fellow-men, but in the profound conviction that man's judgment is of but small account when compared with the judgments of the Almighty, he exclaimed: "To me it is a very small matter how I am judged by you, or by human judgment: neither do I judge my own self. For I am not conscious of any wrong in myself: yet am I not hereby justified; but He that judgeth me is the Lord."

Could those white lips speak to us now, would they not, with the awful eloquence of eternity, re-echo the words of the Apostle? "Judge me," he would say. "ye friends and partners and witnesses of my life, judge me, for it is your right: my life was not my own but yours, and you have a right to pass sentence on it. Judge me, all ye whose interests were for so many years intrusted to my keeping: honestly I strove to do my full duty to you, but I own my responsibility and your judgment is welcome. Judge me! O, my country, to whom the best energies of my life were consecrated: thou knowest that I loved thee devotedly: that I strove to serve thee unselfishly: that beyond all the interests of family or friends or party thy welfare was the chief object of my desires: to thee my life belonged and thou hast a right to judge it. But, O, my country and my friends, highly though I value your judgment, sorely though I would be grieved if ye found me worthy of your disapproval, sweet as will be to

me the sentence of your approbation, the hope of which was ever a spur to my endeavors, yet what will all this avail me in the eternity into which I now have entered, unless the judgment of Him who searcheth the reins and the hearts be also a judgment of mercy and approval? O, pray for me, my friends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched me."

"Who hath known the mind of the Lord, or who hath been His counsellor?" Not even the Church of Christ pretends to lift the veil and declare the sentence of the Most High. For every child of God over whom her funeral rites are celebrated she has ever the self-same form of humble and repentant supplication for mercy. Even over those who have been highest in the ranks of her ministry she utters the same cry for mercy, and whatever there is of added liturgy is only addition of supplication because of their weightier responsibility. Knowing full well how truly the apostle says: "If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us;" in the awful hour of death she discerneth not between layman and cleric, between the poor stray sheep that has got into the fold, as it were, at the last moment, and the faithful one that has stayed in it always; but over them all and in the name of all equality, she cries out to the Eternal Judge: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy, and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my iniquity. For I know my iniquity and my sin is always before me."

She offers up that prayer for mercy not only for them, but in their name. She prays for all men, without limit or exception, with a charity as catholic as her name, as limitless as the charity of Christ. But she can pray in the name only of those who have associated themselves with her, who have become her members either in accomplished fact or in clearly declared intention and desire. She prays this day not only for Senator Barbour, but in his name, because for years past he had identified his religious life entirely with her. She regards him as having been a catechumen, a candidate for baptism and for full membership in her communion, for such his words and acts plainly declared him to

be. And from the earliest days of the Church's history we see with what special tenderness she regarded her catechumens. History has preserved to us the discourse pronounced by the great St. Ambrose over the Emperor Valentinian, who was cut off by an untimely death ere yet he had joined the membership of the Church by receiving baptism.

Grieve not—

Says the saint—

because he died without the sacrament of baptism. Tell me, is there anything on our part but the will, the desire? That grace he desired he asked for; who then will say that having asked he did not receive? Assuredly because he asked the grace he received it. Pour forth then, O Eternal Father—

He continues—

pour forth on this Thy servant the abundance of the mercy and the grace which he so desired. As Thou has crowned Thy unbaptised martyrs with the baptism of their blood, so crown this Thy servant with the baptism of his desire. And ye, O brethren—

He exclaims to the people—

unite your supplications with mine; offer for his soul the holy mysteries; with pious affection let us pray for his repose; by the offering of the heavenly sacraments let us follow his soul with spiritual help. I scatter not flowers on his tomb, but I pour upon his soul the sweet perfume of Christ. With this will I sanctify his remains; through this will I invoke on him all heavenly grace.

In very many words like these, all glowing with faith and charity, all laden with the sweetness of Christian hope, did this great father of the Church utter the feelings of his soul towards his beloved catechumen. And well we know that this was no prompting of human respect, no sacrifice of Christian principle to the dignity of the dead emperor. For it was that same Ambrose who met the Emperor Theodosius at the church door and drove him from the consecrated threshold and from the communion of the faithful, because the blood of the people of Thessalonica was on his hands. No, it was a duty which the great bishop knew that he owed to the catechumen whom death had so suddenly snatched away. And were he here to-day he would speak and act in like manner towards this our friend, who years ago declared his intention of becoming a member of the old Church of Jesus Christ, who, when the duties of public life, which he then thought

he had laid aside forever again seized on him and absorbed him, though he temporarily delayed the final step, never retracted his expressed determination to take it, who all these years has spoken and acted as if he were already in full membership, and who, had time been given him at the last, would assuredly, as his family well knew, have asked for the grace and consolation of her sacred rites.

What Ambrose did fifteen hundred years ago we, his successors in the holy ministry, do to-day. And his eminence Cardinal Gibbons finding it impossible to fulfill this sad duty himself, glad am I that to me should fall the honor of filling his place; for during the eleven years that Richmond was my home and Virginia the field of my episcopal labors I shared in the pride that every Virginian felt at having for the representative of the proud old State in the national Congress so honorable, so high-toned, so spotless a man as John S. Barbour. When, about six years ago, shortly after the untimely death of his saintly and beloved wife, he gave me to understand that soon we would be fellow Catholics, I rejoiced that the luster which his civic virtues reflected on his State and the honor which his public career did to his whole country was likewise to be shared in by the old church of all the ages, the mother of saints and heroes and sturdy upright men and women in every age and clime and condition of human life. Their lives are a testimony to her which she values highly because of its utility to their fellow-men.

In this age of intense activity, when absorption in temporal pursuits so often makes men unmindful of their eternal interests; when the hard-wrought children of men are so prone to think that fidelity to the business of this life renders it impossible to be busy about the life to come: when Caesar's claims are so imperious and so all-pervasive that the representative of the spiritual order is apt to be considered, as her Divine Founder was, an intruder, a usurper, a disturber of the public peace—in such an age that man is a benefactor to his race who by the example of his life gives practical proof that it is possible and easy to be at the same time an energetic business man and yet a man of

prayer, to be an active politician and yet a conscientiously religious man, to be a clear-sighted American statesman and yet a firm believer in the old Catholic Church of Jesus Christ.

Soon this Senate Chamber will resound with eloquent tributes to the admirable character and the eminent public services of this good and noble man. Would that the sound of those eulogies might reach so far and sink so deep into the heart of the nation that all his fellow-citizens might thereby be spurred to emulate his civic virtues. Would that the moral of his life might inspire good men everywhere with a better appreciation of their duty to their country, with a firm resolve that no private considerations should hinder them from taking their full part in safeguarding the public interests, instead of leaving them to the mercy of selfishness and greed. Would that, before this example of clean-handed public service, venality and corruption might cower in shame and disappear from the sanctuary of our country's liberties forever. Would that, at the sight of this union of American statesmanship with Catholic faith, the outcry of religious animosity, so out of place in this land of civil and religious liberty, might forever be hushed. And, oh, would that, above all, the silent eloquence of this impressive spectacle might indelibly imprint on the mind of our country and on the minds of all her public men that lesson so solemnly taught us by Washington in his Farewell Address, that the absolutely indispensable foundation and props of national prosperity must be morality and religion.

Grant, O Heavenly Father, that such may be the beneficent fruit of the life and the death of this good man. From his example may there go forth an influence to purify and to elevate the life of his people. May his country, which so lovingly honors his memory and so sincerely deplores his loss, reap profit from the practical lesson which his death bequeaths to all her citizens. May his testimony to the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen that faith in the souls of us all and make it invulnerable against the attacks of unbelief. And as Thy holy Pontiff, St. Ambrose, prayed for the soul of his beloved catechumen, so do



we implore thee, O Father of Mercies and God of all consolation, to deal in sweetest mercy and love with the soul of this Thy servant. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The committee of arrangements will escort the remains of the deceased Senator from the Chamber, and after the guests of the Senate have retired the Senate will accompany the body to the residence of the late Senator Barbour, returning to the Chamber for further duty.

The casket was borne from the Chamber, and the Senate, as a body, the invited guests, and the clergymen attended the remains.

At 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p. m. the Senate returned to its Chamber, and the Vice-President resumed the chair.

Mr. MANDERSON. I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, May 17, 1892, at 12 o'clock meridian.

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